

THE

Capitol

NEWS

FROM HOLLYWOOD

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JOHNNY MERCER

EDITED BY DAVE DEXTER, JR.

At Deadline

Gaining in strength every day, and rapidly rounding into shape after a long rest, Stan Kenton's progress is encouraging enough to start the tall "Artistry in Rhythm" maestro thinking about resuming his band activities soon.

"I'm in much better condition now," Kenton said in late June after several weekends at the beach. "My appetite is coming back and I'm eating heavily for the first time in four years. I had forgotten what it was like to eat three meals a day." Stan said he would check with his medic this month with a view towards getting his band together again in late August or September.

Bouncing back to the grind of playing nightly, after a long vacation during which time he appeared only at benefits for various worthy causes, Benny Carter just signed contracts to take a small combo into Billy Berg's Hollywood nitery on July 2. It will mark Carter's first location job in the Los Angeles area in nearly two years.

Renowned the world over for his versatility, Carter will emphasize his alto sax at Berg's. He just obtained a new gold Selmer from Paris.

The King Cole Trio will close at the Bodge Room, Hollywood, on July 10 after five weeks. Then Cole will head north for 30 days to play San Francisco and other stops along the coast.

The California band of Johnny Otis, drummer, and the singing Ink Spots are slated to open at the Los Angeles Million Dollar Theater on July 9 for a week. June Richmond also will take part in the show. Cab Calloway, who opened at the same theater on June 25 for a week, goes into Ciro's on July 2.

Nixed by British officials, Will Osborne was to have taken his band into the Aragon, Ocean Park, the weekend of June 27. Will had planned to front a British band this summer but musicians' union, in London, refused to allow it.



DAVE DEXTER'S surface noise

Rambling On An Underwood

ALL THESE new network jockey programs had better be good. There are hundreds of wax-whirlers on little stations the country over who have their own rabidly loyal audiences and their listeners will be quick to spot inept, hokey pretenders no matter how big the network they perform with. One character already on the ether is as obviously phoney as a zebra in a horse race. . . Butch Stone opened at the Los Angeles Red Feather nitery June 17 for a four-weeker with Shorty Rogers, Stan Getz, Ted Nash, Shelly Robin, Billy Short and Arnold Fishkind backing his entertaining vocaling. It's a tough spot—but so was Billy Berg's (where Butch made his debt as a leader recently) and no man works harder than Stone to please both management and audiences. . . Tex Beneke, whose band sounds less like the late Glenn Miller's every day, will snare a \$6,000 weekly guarantee plus a split on all receipts over \$15,000 a week when he takes his crew into the Palladium on Christmas Eve. That's an all-time high for the Palladium to pay. But others will now be demanding—and will receive—the same.

Goodman, Kenton a Riot on Forthcoming Biscuit

Benny Goodman will eventually make his permanent residence in California, peddling his Connecticut manse and moving everything—even that truckload of cane reeds—west. Has anyone itemed the fact that Paul Hindemith and Aaron Copland are busy writing new works for clarinet, at BG's request? Wonderful, too, how Benny allows Stan Kenton to rib him about his "ray" on that rowdy "Happy Blues" record which Capitol is releasing August 4 nationally on the new red "Americana" label. But wait until you hear what Goodman says about Kenton's band! On the same record!

This and That in Radio

Radioites concluded that the makers of Old Golds would pull in their belts, now that Sinatra is gone. But when the new OG series bows in on Sept. 10 the tobacco firm will spend \$17,500 every week to present Frank Morgan, Frances Langford, Don Ameche, the Jubalaires and a huge ork. Kraft Cheese, it appears, also will splurge with a new presentation built around Maurice Chevalier. Watch out for Garry Moore, who will be on his own come October. The lad from Baltimore knows his music, and will offer something different—and laudible—when he tees off as his own boss.

You, Too, Can Help Billie Holiday

Have you dropped a note to Billie Holiday, who right now is undergoing extreme physical pain (and untold humiliation) at the Federal Reformatory for Women in Alderson, West Virginia? She's ill, and her fair-weather friends have long since forgotten her—and her marvelous talent. A little encouragement from those who have been entertained by her all these years is worth thinking about, no? . . . And the best three bucks you'll ever spend will be for Sinclair Lewis' new novel, "Kingsblood Royal." Lewis is a master musician—he weaves gorgeous melodies with his typewriter. Buy it, borrow it, beg it, steal it. Read "Kingsblood Royal."

Strictly Addenda, and Stuff

Whatever happened to all those self-styled "authorities" who were going to smack Esquire down by breaking up the mag's annual jazz presentation? Those who resigned in such a huff must feel slightly childish by now. . . Charlie Barnet set, too, for Sam Goldwyn's "That's Life" flick. Story is on Page 6. The Mab also wants to travel about Europe this fall and undoubtedly will. On a bicycle, no doubt. . . Ever wonder what magic must be required to put out the Saturday Evening Post on Wednesdays? . . . The neighbor who picked up Wingy Manone's little dog a few minutes after she had been run over by a steamroller near Manone's house the other evening banged on Wingy's front door and shouted the news.

"Okay," replied Wingy from inside the house somewhere, "Slide her under the door."



PIANO-PLUCKING chanteuse who has sung with various name bands, Annette Warren, went into the Los Angeles Zamboanga Club in mid-June, thus launching herself as a single act without the help of a brass section. Look at her—does she need brass?

Krupa Planning Tour of Coast

Hitting Hollywood at a time when dancers are sitting 'em out, and clutching their coins, Gene Krupa and his band have nevertheless been faring well on their current Palladium engagement. The drummer will play one-nighters late this month after winding up his Pally commitment.

Pee-Wee Hunt, vet Dixie trombonist and singer long identified with the old Casa Loma band, has been leading a two-beat combo during the Krupa band's intermissions.

Toddle House Offers Slam Stewart's Unit

Slam Stewart was slated to return to California for a July 1 opening at the Toddle House, a small Culver City nitery a few miles from Hollywood, where his old partner Slim Gaillard was featured until recently. Stewart, famed for his whacky "humming" style as he bows his bull-fiddle, said he expected to remain in Southern California for the remainder of the year.

Networks, At Last, Use Discs to Compete With 1,400 Indie Jockies

July, the month that will be remembered as the one in which America's mighty networks flipped their wigs and went disc jockey batty.

July, the month that finds the veteran Paul Whiteman sitting in a luxurious Hollywood radio studio, spinning records and gabbing, confidentially, to listeners throughout the United States. Yes, and the month when Martin Block hops from a daily stint on a New York station to a nationwide hookup via the Mutual web.

Network Big Shots Wake Up

This is the month, too, when Tommy Dorsey is preparing to become a network platter spinner. He has signed a contract with Lou Cowan, agent, guaranteeing him \$1,250,000 in the next five years. Not for leading his band, not for sliding his golden trombone. For playing records on a t. c. basis every day.

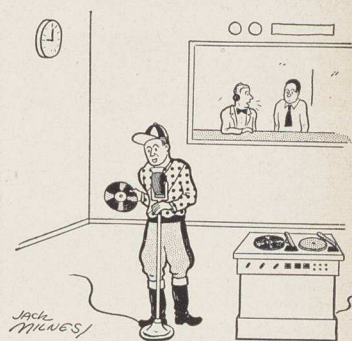
Whiteman is drawing more than \$3,000 a week for his chores as a jockey over the ABC net. Block gets even more.

And it all means that the network executives have finally, begrudgingly, acknowledged that phono records provide far better (and more popular) entertainment than soap operas, moronic quiz programs and similar ether claptrap that has dominated and polluted the airwaves these many years. Throughout the land, on tiny stations the network never heard of, little men have become giants—with listeners—

Harry James Will Play Pally Oct. 7

Harry James has been signed to open at the Hollywood Palladium on Oct. 7, the first time he's played the spot in more than three years.

Due to return to the west coast soon after an all-summer tour of the east, The Horn is said to be back in the band biz in earnest. James hopes to dabble in film-making after his return to Hollywood. The band he now is fronting is reputed by easterners to be the best he's had in many years. And it jumps, despite the publicity about sweet music having replaced swing. James thinks otherwise and his current crew reflects the leader's thinking.



"Takes This Disc Jockey Thing Rather Seriously, Doesn't He?"

by offering good music and entertaining gab. Every year, for a decade now, the networks have steadily lost listeners.

CBS, NBC Standing By

There are those men of talent whom the networks fluffed off in years past, men like Martin Block, Al Jarvis, Dave Garroway, Arthur Godfrey, Alan Courtney, Freddy Robbins, Gene Norman and scores more, who through expert programming and plain old-fashioned personality at the mike, established listening audiences that every type of survey proved exceeded—in size, loyalty and purchasing power—all the network programs which competed with them.

So now the networks are going to have disc jockies, too. This is the month. Mutual and ABC are the first to make the pitch. CBS and NBC are watching developments.

And so are the 1,400 disc jockies on indie stations. For now they have the webs to buck. In radio, this is the month that will be remembered.

—Dexter.

Dot Lamour Starting New Show on July 6

A new airshow starring Dorothy Lamour as singer and mistress of ceremonies will bow on NBC July 7 in the same spot held by Fred Allen during the remainder of the year. The stanza, to be aired 13 weeks only, will be pegged to stimulate army recruiting.

Lionel Hampton Due

Lionel Hampton's orchestra will arrive in Hollywood on July 23 for engagements lasting through the summer months.



FLEDGLING LEADER, Jimmy Zito, who blossomed into a big name as a member of Les Brown's band a few seasons back, sits one out with his bride, June Haver of films (right) and Frances Wayne, who briefly chirped with Woody Herman. Miss Wayne now sings on the Mutual web's "California Melodies" program. Zito, who now leads his own band in the Los Angeles area, worked with his bride years ago in the old Ted Fio Rito ork.

How Far Can You Go? Brown Starts 8,000-Mile Jaunt

With his brother, Stumpy Brown, taking over Butch Stone's vocals and doubling on trombone in the band, Les Brown took leave of Hollywood last month on a transcontinental tour which is destined to wind up in Old Orchard, Maine, in August.

Brown has some first-rate musicians in his revamped band. Brother Stumpy is getting a big reaction as a novelty vocalist, Les said proudly, and a young tenor sax player by the name of Ray Ash is blowing so beautifully that fans of the band don't seem to miss Ted Nash, whom Ash replaced.

Other sidemen who hit the road with Les included Ray Klein, solo trombone; Jimmy Pratt, drums, and Jeff Clarkson, pianist, who rejoined Brown after loaf-

ing in Hollywood several months.

Now at Denver's Elitch Gardens, Les leaves on July 3 for one-nighters throughout Iowa, Missouri and Illinois, winding up on July 18 at Cedar Point Ballroom in Sandusky, Ohio, for a week. Then they'll all head east to play Old Orchard.

Brown expects to return to California, and his home in Beverly Hills, in September. His wife, however, is making the long summer trip with him. Their son and daughter are sitting out the hot months with their grandparents in New Jersey.

Iturbi in 'Son' Pic

Jose Iturbi will begin work, at MGM, in "His Only Son" in September. Joe Pasternak will produce.

vine street gab

RED INGLE and a lot of others who were hipped, all these weeks, that the "Cinderella G. Stump" gal who sings on Ingle's smash "Temptation" record is Jo Stafford are chuckling about the way America's record reviewers (and many jockeys) failed to spot Jo's pipings.

Not a single reviewer in the trade mags—and some of them are "famous critics" who pride themselves on knowing everything—was sharp enough to dig Stafford's comical chirping. The news finally leaked out, in Hollywood, several weeks after the record was released. "Temptation" is probably the biggest seller of the summer season. And more like it are coming.

Rather than tease music fans again, Capitol promises to print, right on the label, the fact that Benny Goodman and Stan Kenton are the singers on a forthcoming disc which highlights their vocal duet, trumpet by Charlie Shavers and xylophone by Red Norvo. Benny Carter plays the alto sax solo. The biscuit will be released in a few weeks with all the details legibly imprinted on the label.

There's a new arrival in Los Angeles from Providence, R. I., who has hundreds of veteran musicians excited. A cornet player, Rico Vallesse is providing lots of excitement with his Bix-like solo horn, but is restrained from working regularly until he waits out his time and can get a Local 47 card. Vallesse waxed three sides with Joe Alexander and thus got a start on records but he will soon be making a much bigger noise—and more pretty music—when the union permits him. The guy, extremely modest, has never ever rated a line in a single musicians' mag. But he comes on like Gardner. Ava, that is.

And that reminds that the Club 47, where Vallesse hangs out every night, is immune to the recession and doing bigger business every week out in the Valley on Ventura Blvd. Owned and operated by Nappy Lamare, Doc Rando and Noni Bernardi—musicians themselves—it is a hangout for a good portion of Local 47's membership. Eddie Miller walked in the other night and assembled a full-sized band in 15 minutes for a party he had been asked to play. Lamare makes a fair bartender now. But for the first two weeks his libations were n. s. g., and many embouchures around town were ruined.

Traubel Opens Hollywood Bowl Season July 8

Helen Traubel, leading Wagnerian soprano, and Bruno Walter, possibly the most popular conductor to appear every summer in California, will be the chief attractions on July 8 when the 26th season of "Symphonies Under the Stars" begins in the Hollywood Bowl.

Nuts About Fishing

For Miss Traubel, the opening night assignment will probably not prove too bothersome. She spends her Summers at Laguna Beach, less than an hour from Hollywood, cooking and cleaning house, swimming and fishing. "If you can't bait your own hook," she said recently to a Time mag correspondent, "you have no business fishing."

The opening night program will emphasize the various works of Wagner. As many as 32,000 persons every week will be able to attend the Bowl, according to Dr. Karl Wecker, general manager. The new shell has been painted in three shades of blue.

Israel Baker is the new concertmaster of the Bowl symphony orchestra. He spent two years with the AAF.

Iturbi, Dorati to Conduct, Too

Jose Iturbi, conductor and concert pianist, will appear twice as conductor and once as piano soloist during the forthcoming season. Antal Dorati, musical director of the Dallas (Tex.) Symphony Orchestra, and well known to Bowl audiences, will direct three concerts in the second week.

Vladimir Golschmann, for the past 16 years conductor of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, July 22, 24 and 27. Izler Solomon, young American born conductor who won return engagements after his electrifying program last Summer, will have four concerts August 10, 12, 14 and 16. William Steinberg, conductor of the Buffalo Philharmonic, and well known to Bowl audiences through previous appearances here, will direct three concerts August 19, 21 and 23. For the closing four concerts August 24, 26, 28 and 30, Eugene Ormandy, musical director of the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, will make his Bowl debut.

Mozart Pix Skedded

Kathryn Grayson and Robert Walker last month were set to star in MGM's forthcoming "The Triumph of Music," a pic based on the career of Mozart. The studio, however, doesn't expect to roll it until early 1948.



COLLEGE WAS never like this, but Monogram executives make you think so, anyway, with scenes like this in the new "Sarge Goes to College" picture starring Freddie Stewart and June Preisser. Pictured above are Bandsmen Jerry Wald, Abe Lyman, Pat Goldin, Wingy Manone, Candy Candido, Joe Venuti and (extreme right) Jess Stacy. All of them are seen in the film.

After Two Smash Years, Nichols Hits the Trail

After more than two solid years as the featured attraction at Hollywood's jumping Club Morocco, Red Nichols checked out in June and led his Pennies up the west coast for one-night stands along the shores of the Pacific ocean.

Nichols said he and his band would be gone from Hollywood for "about six weeks," and during the jaunt into the Pacific Northwest Red hoped to visit, for at least a few days, his ailing father. It was he who began teaching Nichols how to play the cornet when Red was only three years old back in their home town of Ogden, Utah.

Veteran trombone player Brad Gowans replaced Lou McGarity as a "Penny" just as the group left Filmtown. Gowans was a recent arrival from New York and hopes to soon become a member of the Los Angeles musicians' union, local 47. McGarity is staying in Hollywood in

order to play on several radio programs.

Also on the road with Nichols are Pete DeSantis, piano; Joe Rushton, bass saxophone; Rollie Culver, drums; Rosey McHargue, clarinet, and Don Lodice, tenor saxophone.

Nichols' stay at the Morocco was considered one of the real phenomena of the music business. Month after month, since late 1944, the golden Nichols cornet and slick little aggregation of jazzmen pulled the most consistently big business in Hollywood. Earlier this year Frankie Laine was booked into the same spot and the Morocco became, unquestionably, the most successful bistro in the Los Angeles area.

BLUES WITH A NEW BOUNCE!

nellie lutchner and her rhythm

CAP. 40002

'HURRY ON DOWN'

'THE LADY'S IN LOVE WITH YOU'

(From the Paramount Picture, "Some Like It Hot")

PEGGY Lee

WITH DAVE BARBOUR AND HIS ORCHESTRA

CAP. 419

'AIN'TCHA EVER COMIN' BACK'

'CHI-BABA CHI-BABA (MY BABINO GO TO SLEEP)'

Capitol RECORDS

In the Summer Spotlight . . .



PACING THE sultry summer months in music circles, from Boston to Hollywood, are the famed and fabulous figures pictured here professionally. Benny Goodman, now living in California, just signed to be featured in Sam Goldwyn's "That's Life" film musical starring Danny Kaye and Virginia Mayo. And BG also maintains a heavy waxing schedule. Ella Mae Morse, above, has two exciting new disc sides out, "Old Shank's Mare" and "Get Off It And Go." But she's checking out, for the summer, to await the arrival of her baby. Gene Krupa, at extreme left with pal Red Nichols, is the current Palladium attraction. Nichols received Gene's blessings before pulling out of Hollywood, with his Pennies, on a tour into the Pacific Northwest. And so it goes. For many a performer, the hotter the better. And that goes for their music, too.

Hal Derwin To Take New Band Out on Tour

It's back to the road for Hal Derwin again, after several years as a Hollywood singer.

The Chicago-born baritone has been rehearsing a new dance orchestra and will soon hit the one-nighter trail along the west coast. Meanwhile, he's been recording with the new combo, first examples of which were to be released in late June by Capitol.

Derwin, who once used the phony name of "Hal Stevens" when he waxed a batch of vocals with Artie Shaw's crew, also is recalled as having sung with Shep Fields, Harry Sosnick and Louis Panico. Hitting the road, he says, won't be anything new for him. But as his own boss it will be more interesting—and profitable.

Heavy Schedule For Whiteman in July

This will be Paul Whiteman's busy month. Arriving in Hollywood on his first trip to the coast in more than a year, Pops launches his new disc jockey show via the ABC web on July 8 and four nights later, on July 12, will conduct in the Hollywood Bowl at a "pop" concert.

The concert will be devoted to the music of the late George Gershwin, who died exactly 10 years ago this month. Whiteman has conducted the Gershwin memorial concert every year in the Bowl for many years.

The record show, one of the first ever to be aired over a network, will fill an hour a day on ABC's program.

The Starlighters, vocal group featuring Pauline Byrne, remain on the Tuesday and Thursday Chesterfield NBC programs with Frankie Carle and also will be held when Jo Stafford returns.



BACK AGAIN on the west coast, starting July 25 at Ciro's on the Sunset strip in Hollywood, Duke Ellington will prepare for a special August concert in Hollywood Bowl. Ciro's, usually a hangout for cornball bands, right now is offering Cab Calloway's music. Music fans who have been yelping about jazz being dead, and that "sweet" music is replacing hot, can't quite figure it out.

Meredith Willson For Ford; Shore Departs

With Dinah Shore checking out of radio, temporarily, to have a baby in the fall, Meredith Willson and his studio ork will take over as Ford's featured attraction in the Wednesday eve CBS spot. Dinah is the wife of George Montgomery, 20th-Fox actor.

Ray Noble to London

Ray Noble left Hollywood for a visit with his family in London in June, and expects to return to California about Sept. 1. The long trip is Noble's first to his homeland since before the war.

New T. Dorsey Band Best He's Had in Years

Determined to win back his spot as one of the band champs of all time, Tommy Dorsey is building another brilliant orchestra on his current stand at the Casino Gardens Ballroom in Ocean Park, just outside Hollywood, which he owns and operates himself.

Elman, Shavers Are Back

Dorsey took things comparatively easy for a couple of years, and led a band that was many notches below the caliber of his previous outfits. But now, refreshed after a long vacation in Florida, the aggressive trombonist is intent upon having an aggregation that will top even his previous crews.

Ziggy Elman and Charlie Shavers, for example, are sparkplugs of the 1947 TD combination at Casino Gardens. Ziggy's stay with Dorsey is temporary; he hopes to go out and lead his own band when box-office conditions improve. Shavers, rated by many a competent observer as the best all-around trumpeter in the business today, splits the horn solos with Elman and has never played more excitingly. Mickey Mangano and Vernon Arslan round out the trumpets.

Lucy Ann Polk New Singer

Trombones, besides the leader, are Buddy Youngman, Charlie LaRue and Benny Benson. Saxes include Bruce Branson, Lou Prisy, Joe Koch, Corky Corcoran and Martin Berman. Jimmy Rowles is at the piano, Joe Mondragon on bass and Lou Bellson on drums. Hugo Winterhalter, Sy Oliver, Sid Cooper and Nelson Riddle are turning out the arrangements.

Singers include Lucy Ann Polk, Stuart Foster and the Town Criers.

Julia Lee, Jesse Price Waxing Again Here

Julia Lee and Boy Friends trained in from Kansas City in June and cut 13 new sides for future release on Capitol. Also returning to Hollywood from K.C. were Jesse Price and his Blues band, after a long run at the College Inn in the Missouri city. Both Miss Lee and Price are featured on Capitol's new "Americana" red label series.

Eddy Howard Opens

Replacing Freddy Martin for the summer, Eddy Howard and his band opened last week at the Coconut Grove of the L. A. Ambassador Hotel.

Doris Day: She Does It the Hard Way

Ex-Ork Oriole to Star in Filmusical

WHEN SHE left the Les Brown band last year and settled down in Hollywood, Doris Day got a frigid brush-off by motion picture and radio executives and was forced to return to New York.

There, in a tiny little bistro known as the Little Club, blonde Doris this Spring resumed her one-gal battle to become a success as a single. Far from the eyes of the Film Colony's big shots, she found herself clicking even more spectacularly than she had as a mere oriole with Brown's band.

Slaves Over a Hot Set

And on her 23rd birthday, a character by the name of Mike Curtiz latched her looks, her pipes and her fresh appeal, then touched her pinkies to a long-term binder which finds her, these warm July days, slaving over a hot set as the singing star of Curtiz's forthcoming "Romance in High C" musical which is being produced in Technicolor.

Cincinnati is Doris' home, and it was big enough to hold her until she was 12, when she trekked off to hoof in a Fanchon & Marco unit. Then came a motor car crash, and one of Miss D's pretty pins was bent and busted so that she could no longer terp it professionally.

After 14 months of wearing a cast—and they didn't autograph 'em in those days—Doris cast about for a new career. She started singing while lying abed, allowing her gam to heal, and from bed she went to work with various Cincy dance bands.

Gil Rodin Hires Her for Crosby Ork

One cold spring afternoon in Chicago, carrying a telegram from Gil Rodin of the Bob Crosby band, she entered NBC's studios in the Merchandise Mart and sat through a rehearsal of the Crosby band for the Camel ciggie program. That was in 1939—eight long years ago, and if she is 23 now then she must have been all of 15 when she became the Crosby band's canary. Mildred Bailey was the star of Crosby's smoke show at that time, but every night Doris handled the lyrics at the Blackhawk. Finally, she skipped over to the Les Brown aggregation. As with the Dixie outfit, nothing much happened—at least for a time. Then she went boing! with a tune called "Sentimental Journey."

Along the lonesome, endless route of finding success as a singer Doris mar-



DORIS DAY: A Fractured Peg Led to Pix

ried and divorced two musicians. Her first spouse, a trombone virtuoso named Al Jorden, is the father of her son. The second, Georgie Weidler, still plays saxophone in Hollywood. "The next husband," she avers, "will be a Scorpio. The Capricornus and the Aquarius didn't work out for me."

Three Children for Her?

Notwithstanding she has already been twice wed, Doris isn't making this a habit, and feels that she probably will not marry at all for a while.

"I have been told by astrologers that I am going to have three children," she said, "and so far I've only had one—

a boy, by my first husband; so I'll have to marry again sometime to fulfill the prophecy."

For the very day she broke off with her second husband, whom she deeply loved (he is the brother of Virginia), was the one Curtiz called her to the studio for an interview that led to her winning the prize role in "Romance in High C."

"When I toured I couldn't take my little boy with me. So he stayed with mother in Cincinnati, and she gave up the job she held. Now they are both coming out to California, just as soon as I can arrange a home for all three of us."

THE KING COLE TRIO

'COME IN OUT OF THE RAIN'
'CAN YOU LOOK ME IN THE EYES'
(AND SAY WE'RE THROUGH)

VOCALS BY KING COLE

Capitol RECORDS

off the cuff

ALTHOUGH BUSINESS hasn't been too boffo in recent weeks, the ornate Flamingo nitery in nearby Las Vegas has succeeded in erasing the rumors that the nitery was built illegally last year while homeless veterans were unable to obtain construction materials. The truth is this: the CPA Compliance Commissioner, W. B. Owens, officially permitted the luxurious hostelry to be built following a series of hearing at which it was learned that the materials were already available and that completing the massive structure would cause no veteran hardships.

Acts and bands are now reported anxious to perform at the Flamingo. Henry Busse, Nat Brandwynne and Henry King all have appeared there as maestros and even bigger names are being lined up for the coming autumn season.

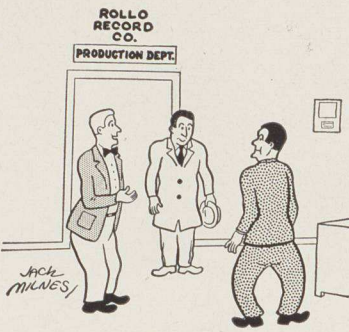
The little group of fugitives from Stan Kenton's band that opened at Chicago's Sherman Hotel on May 30 just advised Stan, in Hollywood, that they are having a ball and will be held for a full eight weeks. Vido Musso, tenor, heads the combo. Kai Winding, Chico Alvarez, Ray Wetzel, Boots Mussulli and Skip Layton also are allegedly taking part, with Kenton's encouragement. They'll all be back in the SK fold shortly, however. And so will June Christy.

Frank Bull, KFWB jock and Hollywood ad agency exec, is in Stockholm trying to persuade Olympics Games bigwigs that the '52 Olympics should be held in L. A. Bull promised his listeners he would return with plenty of Swedish jazz discs.

Little Jerry Bowen, who played the trumpet for more than a decade with Horace Heidt, is leading the intermission band at Casino Gardens. T. Dorsey is spot's main attraction.

Merry Macs, with Imogene Lynn, head for Las Vegas for two weeks at Flamingo Club starting July 3.

Raymond Scott, long absent from west coast, gets mighty close with his



Meet Mr. Gillette . . . he's in charge of our western records."

June 28-July 28 engagement at Lake Tahoe, Cal. Martha Raye, who just winged back from Hawaii, headlines the show. Scott's last appearance in California was many years ago—before the war—when he was featured with his quintet in pix.

The Page Cavanaugh Trio set for spot in Mike Curtiz's "Romance in High C" film in which Doris Day makes her flicker debut. Trio, heard Sundays on the Jack Paar program via NBC, also has been clicking neatly in the Circus room of Santa Monica's Hotel Ambassador.

Hugo Friedhofer and Emil Newman will compose and conduct original music for Enterprise's forthcoming "Body and Soul" picture.

Frankie Laine drew still another hold-over ticket at Club Morocco. But the job isn't the same for him now that D'Varga, a butterfly pianist, and his "society" crew, have taken over the bandstand to back Laine's singing. Frankie pulls out for New York in a few weeks.

Another Whiting Hit!

MARGARET WHITING

WITH FRANK DEVOL AND HIS ORCHESTRA

'OLD DEVIL MOON'

FROM THE BROADWAY MUSICAL "THE RAINBOW"

'ASK ANYONE WHO KNOWS'

CAP. 410

Capitol Records

Meet the Jock!

BILL WELLS is a pancake pilot who adlibs his way through the "Rhythm Express" show on Memphis' Station WMPS. Acclaimed by his followers as "the hottest thing to hit the South in years," Wells wears the Purple Heart and has three years in the Army to his credit. And with WMPS moving up from 1,000 to 10,-



000 big fat watts this Summer, it's a more potent Wells who will be heard three times daily and, on Saturdays, for 2½ hours at night. The photo shows Bill and a hat prop. He's got better ones but you can't see them over the air!

Stacy On Road With New Band

Jess Stacy flew the coop and tried his wings as a bandleader last month, taking a small combo into Nevada and Northern California for one-nighters booked by the McConkey agency.

Stacy, who has led bands of his own before, but always in the east, was featuring several well-known sidemen when he left Hollywood in early June. Art Lyons, former Teagarden clarinet; Ernie Figueroa, trumpet; Zoot Sims, tenor; Benny Bennett, bass; Bill Williams, trombone, and Dwight Towne, drums, departed town with the veteran Missouri pianist, who for many years was featured with the Goodman and Crosby orchestras.

Jess, the husband of Lee Wiley, said he would be gone "a couple of months."

Norvo Dusting Off His Old Woodpile

Red Norvo has been rehearsing a new small combo in Hollywood. He also rejoined Benny Goodman, in June, to be featured with BG on the final four Mobilgas programs over NBC Mondays.

Norvo has been practicing xylophone for several months, in addition to vibes, and will feature the woodpile with his new septet as he did before the war. Now a member of L. A. Local 47, AFM, Norvo soon will be playing a Hollywood nitery. He also has big recording plans after several months of being inactive on wax.

singers' stuff

AL JOLSON, who is finding himself just about the biggest attraction in show business these days, will learn this month of Warner Brothers' plans to release two films in which he starred more than 10 years ago. "Go Into Your Dance" will be released this summer and "Wonder Bar," dating back to 1934, is scheduled for reissue in the late fall. Joley, meantime, is refusing all offers to head up his own radio program and is, instead, accepting fees of \$5,000 per guest shot. Even at that fee he has more offers than he can accept. Columbia Pictures, the studio responsible for "The Jolson Story," is preparing a sequel to it with Joley again featured on the soundtrack.

June Christy hopped to Chicago to do a single at the Sherman Hotel following her run at the H'wood Bodge. She will definitely be back with Stan Kenton's ork when Stan reorganizes, she advises.

Axel Stordahl's studio orchestra will replace Mark Warnow's on the Lucky Strike NBC Hit Parade show starting in September. The Pied Pipers and Doris Day will be featured, vocally, along with Frank Sinatra, who just recently concluded a long radio series for Old Golds.

Woody Herman, clicking as a singing single after junking his jumping herd last winter, has temporarily shelved his plans to independently produce, as a flicker, his "Concerto for Johnny" story. But he still has hopes. And when it rolls, Igor Stravinsky will have a leading role.

Mary Ann McCall rejoining the Charlie Barnet band.

Jo Stafford enjoying summer vacation from the NBC Chesterfield program. She will return in the fall.

O'Day Chirps Again

After several months in retirement, Anita O'Day popped up as vocal soloist at the Rounders Club, Hollywood, in late May to share billing with Johnny White's Quartet. Miss O'Day, who chirped with the Kenton, Krupa and Herman bands in past years, said she would seek a divorce from her husband, Carl Hoff, who is not the bandleader.



ARMED FORCES RADIO SERVICE continues its invaluable work in behalf of American servicemen still overseas—and those hospitalized here at home—with its scores of programs designed for every taste. Here, in the Hollywood AFRS studios, Lorry Raine, singer, transcribes a "Personal Album" with the help of Carl Fisher, piano; Bob Simmers, guitar, and Bassist Harvey Shermack. Hundreds of Hollywood singers, actors, musicians and comedians constantly perform for AFRS. But the American public, unable to hear the many superb programs, is never aware of their activities.

Russ Columbo, Dead 13 Years, Remembered in Mother's Will

A mother's love for her son is a subject that poets have utilized for centuries, but once again it was demonstrated—under rather unusual circumstances—last month in Hollywood when the will of the late Mrs. Julia Columbo was filed for probate two years after her death.

Mrs. Columbo, who died at 79, disposed of her \$2000 estate and included a portion of it as a bequeathment to Russ Columbo, her son, whose accidental death 13 years ago had always been kept a secret from his aged mother.

Columbo was one of the world's most popular singers at the time of his death Sept. 2, 1934. He was a rival of Bing Crosby and was just about as popular until a friend accidentally discharged a

pistol they were examining together. Through the years that passed, the Columbo family kept Russ's death a secret from his mother. Unable to read because of failing eyesight, Mrs. Columbo was read weekly letters, purportedly from Russ, and received Christmas cards and other greetings sent in his name. Her family answered her frequent questions about the crooner by telling her he was abroad and gaining new fame.

A monthly check for \$398 from an insurance company always was presented to Mrs. Columbo as coming "from Russ."

The affectionate weekly letters came from many places in the world—from Paris, London and other cities—and told a simple story of a son's happiness and hard work.

Chuckle and Swing when Jack Smith sings!

JACK SMITH

'CU-TU-GU-RU (JACK, JACK, JACK)'

'OH! MY ACHIN' HEART'

CAP. 403

THE CLARK SISTERS

Capitol Records

and Orchestra Conducted by Earl Shelton

who's where

KING COLE TRIO: Bocage Room Until July 10.

CAB CALLOWAY: Ciro's.

GENE KRUPA: Palladium.

BENNY CARTER: Billy Berg's.

TOMMY DORSEY: Casino Gardens.

EDDY HOWARD: Coconut Grove of Hotel Ambassador.

DUKE ELLINGTON: Opening at Ciro's on July 25.

PEE-WEE HUNT: Palladium.

LEIGHTON NOBLE: Casino, Catalina Island.

GEECHIE SMITH: Cricket Club.

JOHNNY WHITE: Club Rounders.

ANITA O'DAY: Club Rounders.

MILT WAIN: Hotel Stowell.

SLAM STEWART: Toddle House.

EDDIE DAVIS: 409 Club.

POISON GARDNER: Susie-Q.

D'VARGA: Morocco.

THE BLENDERS: Down Beat.

ABBEY BROWNE: Charley Foy's.

MANNY STRAND: Earl Carroll's.

MATTY MALNECK: Slapsy Maxie's.

JOE DAUBEK: Penthouse.

RAY WHITAKER: Town House.

NICK COCHRAN: Larry Potter's.

LAMARE RANDO and BERNARDI TRIO: Club 47.

TOMMY PEDERSON: Palladium, Monday Nights Only.

ROY MILTON: Cobra Club.

FRANKIE LAINE: Morocco.

JIMMIE GRISSOM: Down Beat.

RUSS MORGAN: Biltmore Hotel.

EMIL BAFFA: Florentine Gardens.

Sinatra Pays Off, Goes Back to Work

Back at Metro for film work after paying off \$9,050 to Lee Mortimer, Hearst writer, to have Mortimer's assault case thrown out of court, Frank Sinatra also was preparing for his new fall radio show which Lucky Strike will sponsor. Hollywood was astounded when the news leaked out that the crooner had paid off in order to eliminate a court trial.

Eddy For Eddy Duchin

Nelson Eddy replaces Eddy Duchin on the Kraft program starting July 3 over NBC. The singer's show will emanate from Hollywood.

The 'Solid Senders' vs. 'Solid Blenders' in L.A.

A frantic "behind the scenes" mutiny within the fly little Roy Milton band has developed in the last few weeks, it was revealed in late June when three of Milton's key sidemen bolted and started a rival combo with a similar name.

Milton, an Oklahoma drummer and singer who has long tabbed his outfit as the "Solid Senders," lost Couchie Roberts, Buddy Floyd and Dave Robinson following long arguments over money matters. The three ex-Milton-men started their own group, patterned exactly along the lines of Milton's group, and have started calling their new outfit the "Solid Blenders."

Milton, at the Cobra Club, is now bucking his former associates, who are ensconced in the Down Beat Club not far from where Milton is playing.

Teddy Buckner, trumpeter and former maestro, and Bill Austin both joined the new band and so did a young new singing star, a nephew of Dan Grissom, Jimmie Grissom, who is rated one of the most promising baritones to come up the pike since Joe Alexander.

Milton, who features his wife, Ca-

mille Howard, as piano soloist and vocalist, said he was "unperturbed" over the split and intent upon building his little combo into the smooth and exciting aggregation it was before the threesome cut out.

All along Central avenue, and in Hollywood proper, the "mutiny" is creating talk. But as things stand now the "Solid Senders" will be bucking the "Solid Blenders" for a long time to come.

New Western Ork For Cliffie Stone

By LEE GILLETTE

Cliffie Stone will soon unveil his new western cowboy group, the Barndance band. It will feature a highly-secret "whang-dangled trumpet."

Merle Travis is the man who wrote "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke!" which Tex Williams waxed for release June 9 on Capitol. Tex is not imitating the guy you think on the record—he's been singing that way for years. Tex, that is. It was Travis who also composed "So Round, So Firm, So Fully Packed." He must turn out tunes under the influence of nicotine!

WE SALUTE—Randy Blake for his boff job on the WJJD "Supper-time Frolic" stanza . . . Riverside Rancho and Jimmie Fidler and all the stars who appeared for the Texas City benefit . . . the brass at Capitol for giving us a distinctive label and more releases per month . . . And to Dave Dexter for recognizing that folk music has its points. P. S.—Dex, would you like Merle Travis to shout the blues on a record for you?

Why shore, depending upon his accompaniment.—ED.

'Red Mill' Musical To Star Red Skelton

Red Skelton and Keenan Wynn are set for roles in MGM's film version of "The Red Mill," legit musical based on the life and music endeavors of the late Victor Herbert. Sam Marx is producing.

Carle Due In For Pally, Radio Dates

Frankie Carle and his band, with his daughter Marjorie Hughes as canary, will open at the Palladium on July 22 and will also double on NBC every Tuesday and Thursday for Chesterfield while Jo Stafford vacations.

FOR YOU *if you love Music*

NOW YOU CAN ENJOY BIG-SET TONE QUALITY

IN A PORTABLE PHONOGRAPH!

AMAZINGLY DIFFERENT!

NO MATTER how perfect the star's performance—how faithful the recording—the ultimate music can be only as good as the *quality of your record player* . . . Sets for the home have improved so tremendously that the problem of reproducing quality recorded music is not a serious one.

● But more and more lovers of records have demanded *portable* players . . . so that they may have their favorite artists at the beach, in summer cabins, on boats—wherever fancy takes them. ● Portable phonographs have been made to answer this demand. But tone quality was sacrificed to portability...to price...to a mass marketing mania. ● In a sincere effort to improve the quality of portable record players, Capitol asked the engineers to design a machine that

(c) had the style and durability of the finest luggage.

● Capitol executives were not sure what such a set would cost to produce. But they

did know that there were a lot of people who would be willing to pay the necessary price to own such a glorious instrument; and they did know that it was vitally important that such a machine be made available.

● The new Capitol Luxury portable is ready! It fulfills the fondest hopes . . . truly an instrument that assures pride and pleasure for every owner, wherever it is played.

● Capitol engineering skill and recording know-how has produced this amazing portable record super-player. It is the *only* two motor portable that plays *electronically everywhere*.

● The dealer from whom you receive this Capitol News has a Capitol Luxury portable on display, or can obtain one for you. Buy it now, for summer and vacation joys ahead. You'll be one of the few who will have recorded music wherever you go—the *finest!*



JO STAFFORD ENJOYS CAPITOL'S Luxury PORTABLE

Whether on the lawn of her lovely Hollywood home, the beach at Malibu, or on Lake Arrowhead, radio and record's leading singer, Jo Stafford finds Capitol's Luxury Portable completely satisfactory. It's the only phonograph that plays *electronically with or without external current*.

- (a) would give console-quality reproduction (rich full tone).
- (b) would be playable *anywhere electronically*—with current when available—spring-wound when set cannot be plugged in.



You broke my heart
when you broke off our engagement
Don't you think that's breaking
it off

"a little too fer"

JOHNNY MERCER
with MERLE TRAVIS and his Coon Hunters

on the other side
"The Covered Wagon
Rolled Right Along"

CAP 400

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• Paramount Pegs Peggy •



STRICTLY GAG art, this, but it serves to remind that Peggy Lee is the star of Paramount's new Technicolor featurette, "Midnight Serenade." Dave Barbour, his guitar and band also are seen in the flicker, their first. Posing

zanily here with Peg, for reasons obscure, is dapper, daffy Bill Leyden, KMPC platter pilot, who will tell you that in the picture Peggy sings "Sugar," "I'm In the Mood for Love," "It's a Good Day" and "You Was So Right, Baby."